



Atlanta Daily Constitution

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 27, 1877.

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS.

The decisions for the July term, 1876, are ready. The pamphlet will be furnished subscribers at \$1, and to all others

THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

We announce the name of Mr. William A. Hemphill, our business manager, as the candidate of The Constitution for state printer.

We refer to the course of our newspaper as a basis of our claim on the democratic party of Georgia, and the general completeness and efficiency of our printing establishment as to our ability to promptly and properly perform the work.

## THE ELECTORAL COUNT.

The all-night session of the senate over the electoral bill was unsatisfactory to the Morton-therman combination those that immediately preceded it, and that is saying a great deal. Mr. Bayard opened the evening session with an argument directed chiefly against the preposterous theory that the president of the senate can count Hayes in. He said that the bill was not, as Mr. Morton had argued, a compromise. It provided for the honest adjudication of the rights of all.

It was a blending of opinions in favor of truth and right, in the abstract and the concrete. Mr. Bayard was followed by Messrs. Thurman, Stevenson, Morell, Howe and Whyte, all of whom riddled and pealed Messrs. Morton and Sherman unmercifully. Mr. Whyte was speaking at four o'clock in the morning, when our latest reports by mail were closed. It is conceded that the defense of the bill in the senate was able and powerful. It won the support of hesitating men like Senator Stevenson, and placed the success of the measure beyond question.

Blaine and Daves spoke against the bill on the last eventful night. Daves was weak and dreary. Blaine was not ready "to lodge such tremendous power in fifteen men." He is willing however to let go it in the hands of Mr. Ferry. Of course, he thought the bill unconstitutional. Neither speech needed an answer. The result of the debate may be summed up in the disappearance from American politics of the president of the senate as a positive national returning board.

If a man may be judged by the acts of his associates, Hayes is "ugly" on the bill, although he claims to be on the fence. His home organ, the Ohio State Journal, denounces it. The republicans of the Ohio delegation, with one or two exceptions, are opposed to the bill. Mr. Morton stopped at Columbus in December and had a talk with Mr. Hayes, whereupon he became a determined advocate of the right of the president of the senate to count the vote. Every postmaster and every republican that wants to be a postmaster is against the bill. Hayes' representative in Ohio's provincial journalism, Mr. Beckham, of the Dayton Journal, is opposed to the bill, and so is John Sherman, who is Hayes' mortal enemy. If these men do not represent Mr. Hayes' views, the latter is not fitted for political leadership; for a man who can not control his immediate supporters, would be a poor stick at the head of affairs. Mr. Hayes' wishes are clearly manifested in the acts of his friends.

The Inter-Ocean says that both sides will employ eminent legal ability to prepare their cases for presentation before the commission. It believes that David Dudley Field will have general charge of the democratic cause.

The counsel of the republicans will probably consist of Messrs. Everts and Stoughton of New York; James F. Wilson, of Iowa; ex-Attorney Williams, and Matt Carpenter. Mr. Stoughton will be relied on to represent the republican side of the Louisiana case, and Mr. Williams that of Florida. No array of legal talent can however present a good republican case from either of those states.

The commission, as already stated, will be organized next Tuesday, and on the following Thursday the two houses will proceed to count the votes.

By the next day the vote of Florida will be sent to the tribunal, which will meet, and probably sit with locked doors, its members and stenographers being sworn to secrecy until towards the last of the month. This will, however, depend upon the wishes of the commissioners, who are empowered to make their own rules. But the probability is that they will deliberate in secrecy, although this would give rise to innumerable rumors and conflicting doubts.

"Gath" thus decides the judges who are to assist in counting the votes.

Gath has no respect for evidence for the trial which he has passed so many years. The old colored in case, weighing about or above 200 pounds, made the treaty with Mexico in '87. He was appointed by a democratic administration, and hardly ever heard relate to political questions.

Judges are asked pell-mell about the new case devolving upon him. He is universally regarded as Missouri by the rebels as well as by the republicans of Texas as the ablest jurist of the river Mississippi. By birth he is Judge Field.

Field is a man of stupendous reading and information, the ablest lawyer on the Pacific side, and a peer of any in the court. He is a man of ready opinion, but as a judge his impartiality is to be deplored.

He is the most intelligent looking man on the bench—a noble head, with gray locks from his crown. His position in Pennsylvania was of the highest; he is seldom heard of here except in the legal social circle.

While he is the fifth Justice, he is not, however, the ablest. Conkling's appointment would be apt to irritate Conkling's moved mother and to put the part in the public office, and he may be the choice. Others think that the judges will be selected by a majority that will be evenly balanced, but who would want to yield for Tilden by so great a majority that he will be evenly balanced in the influences which environ him.

## NEW RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION.

The last number of the Railroad Gazette contains a record of all track which was laid in 1876, and in 1877; the total of new second tracks and sidings. Georgia is credited with the Northeastern, forty miles long, and with the Sanderville and Tammie line, four miles long. Small as this amount is, it is equal to the average gain of the states. Only 72 miles were laid in Tennessee; 17 miles in South Carolina; 10 in Alabama, and none in Florida. Only five miles of track were constructed in Massachusetts. Texas is at the head of the list with 373 miles, followed by California with her 250 miles; Ohio with 270 miles; and New Jersey with 204 miles. Total for the United States, 2,422 miles. The total length of track in the country is now 76,840 miles. The era of railroad construction culminated in 1872, when 7,240 miles were laid, in 1875 in 7,561 miles laid—these two being the two extremes in this respect.

The introduction of the two last mile lines of great importance built in 1877;

The Packard government is crumbling away.

WHAT MEXICO wants is a few more presidents.

Coal is selling in Galveston at four dollars a ton and very little to be had there.

EGUNNE, the ex-empress of France, is called "widow Bonaparte."

MONROE smirkingly remarks that Edmunds has "burned his ships behind him." No, it was only his "Ferry" boat.

PACKARD is obeying his own "proclamations." He and his hated government are departing.

Mr. Senator Christianity has a baby, and we learn from the Washington Capital that Senator Christianity is doing as well as he expected.

Mr. Frederick May is said to be "as handsome as Adonis," but that was before he married him so horribly in the duel.

Five new operas were produced in Atlanta during the summer months, and all have failed.

You still Pele Cooper keeps.

You never see his name, and when you do it is never above a whale.

Senator Christianity is now his brother-in-law.

The Tribune's committee is

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